

REMARKS

The claim amendments presented herewith are identical to those presented with the previous response, which have not been entered. Entry of the amendments and examination thereof is respectfully requested

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

A second telephone interview between Examiner Johnson and applicants' undersigned attorney was held on June 17, 2003 to clarify that the amendments filed with the response of February 6, 2003 had not been entered because they required a new search. Applicants again note their appreciation to Examiner for his help.

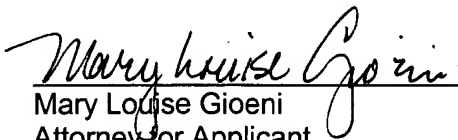
Rejections of the claims are addressed below in the order raised in the outstanding Office Action.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,616,532 (Heller), in view of WO 97/00134 (Kimura) has been maintained. In addition, the Advisory Action states that Kimura does not "teach away" from the claimed surface, as suggested in the previous response. Applicants again submit that Heller does not disclose a composition containing silica particles having the claimed surface area and that one of ordinary skill in the art would find no motivation in Kimura to use silica particles having the claimed specific surface area for a composition that is *bound to a support* by means of an inorganic binder derived from an aqueous colloidal dispersion for two reasons. First, because Kimura relates to a photocatalyst-carrying structure wherein an adhesive layer is provided between a photocatalyst layer and a substrate (Abstract) to "strongly glue a photocatalyst onto a substrate" (col. 3, line 21), there is no suggestion that the inorganic silica would be effective to bind a photocatalyst to a support. Second, the poor results obtained by Kimura with a silica of the specific surface area required by the claims would not provide motivation to substitute this specific surface area for that disclosed by Heller. See Kimura in reference Example 1 of

Table 1, and at col. 21, lines 30-36 for a description of the poor properties obtained. Although Applicants' characterization of Kimura's results as "teaching away" from the specific surface area of the invention is incorrect, as pointed out in the Advisory Action, nevertheless, the results do not provide motivation for modifying Heller's composition to result in the claimed invention. Accordingly, applicants again submit that because of the negative results of Kimura with respect to the specific surface area of the silica binder, the deficiency of the Heller reference is not supplied. Therefore, claim 1 as amended and claims 2-11 which depend from claim 1, are not obvious over the combination of the references. It is believed that the rejection is hereby overcome.

Respectfully submitted,


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